

R E M A R K S

Claims 1 to 3 were canceled hereinabove.

Method dependent claims 5 to 7 were amended to correctly depend on method claim 4.

With respect of Rule 116, entry of the above amendments is respectfully requested, since the amendments involve only a cancellation of claims and a correction of dependency of claims. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the above amendments serve to place the application in condition for allowance.

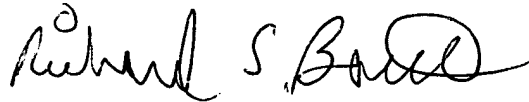
Applicants are pleased to note that on page 3 of the Office Action, it was stated that claims 4 to 13 are in condition for allowance.

The rejection of claims 1 to 3 under 35 USC 102 is moot, in view of the above amendments.

It is noted that on page 3, last line of the Office Action, "Wei et al. US 5,252,318" apparently was intended to be --Wei et al. US 5,583,108--.

Reconsideration is requested. Allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Richard S. Barth". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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